

Nevada Board of Agriculture
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:00am



Remote Meeting

Information:

Nevada Department of Agriculture

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85925813980>

Meeting ID: 859 2581 3980

Phone Join: +1-669-900-9128

Phone Access Code: 85925813980#

COVID-19 Notice

ALL PERSONS WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING MUST ATTEND VIA ZOOM OR TELEPHONICALLY.

- The open meeting law (Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 241) requires public bodies such as the Nevada Board of Agriculture to conduct their meetings with at least one physical location.
- Under an emergency directive issued by Governor Sisolak on March 22, 2020, and extended by a subsequent directive issued on July 31, 2020, the physical location requirement has been suspended.

Public notice

Below is an agenda of all items to be considered. Action may be taken on items preceded by an asterisk (*). Two asterisks denote possible closed session (**). Items on the agenda may be taken out of the posted order, items may be combined for consideration, and items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time at the discretion of the chairperson. Unless noted as an action item, discussion of any item raised during a report or public comment is limited to that necessary for clarification or necessary to decide whether to place the item on a future agenda.

The chairperson may limit public comment that is repetitious, does not relate to a matter within the board's jurisdiction or prevents the meeting from continuing in an orderly manner. All public comment should be addressed to the Board of Agriculture and not an individual member. The board asks that your comments are expressed in a courteous manner. All public comment is limited to three minutes per person. Unused time may not be reserved by the speaker nor allocated to another speaker.

To request the opportunity to comment you must complete a public comment form. Public comment forms are available at online at http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/Board_of_Agriculture/Board_of_Agriculture_Public_Comment/. You may submit the completed form in one of the following ways:

1. Submit a completed public comment form online before the board meeting at http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/Board_of_Agriculture/Board_of_Agriculture_Public_Comment/,
2. submit a completed public comment form before a board meeting via fax to 775-353-3661,
3. or submit a completed public comment form before a board meeting to Samantha Bellwood at sbellwood@agri.nv.gov.

Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations for assistance at the meeting. Please call Samantha Bellwood at 775-432-4263.

Notice of this meeting was posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting at the following locations: the Nevada Department of Agriculture website at agri.nv.gov and www.notice.nv.gov. Copies of the agenda, supporting documentation and meeting minutes are available, at no charge, at the Nevada Department of Agriculture website at agri.nv.gov and www.notice.nv.gov or by contacting Samantha Bellwood at (775) 432-4263 or sbellwood@agri.nv.gov.

Agenda

1. Open meeting-call meeting to order by Chair Woody Worthington

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Moment of Silent Reflection
- C. Roll call

Meeting called to order at 9:01a.m.

Board Members in attendance: Dave Coon, Tim Dufurrena, Charlie Frey, Varlin Higbee, Heather Lackey, Paul Noe, Pete Paris, Bernard Petersen, Jim Snyder, Woody Worthington
Staff members in attendance: Jennifer Ott, Jerri Conrad, Doug Farris, Ashley Jeppson, Cadence Matijevich, Homa Anooshehpour, Samantha Bellwood, Laura Morrow, Brandee Mooneyhan

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Minutes

- A. *Approve December 9, 2020 minutes (*for possible action*)

Charlie Frey moved to approve the December 9, 2020 minutes. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- B. *Approve January 19, 2021 minutes (*for possible action*)

Varlin Higbee moved to approve the January 19, 2021 minutes. Charlie Frey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Board Member Updates on Represented Industries

- A. Industry Updates – Board Members (*for information*)

Chairman Worthington permitted public comment from Leana Carey to Pete Paris questioning marketing efforts of sheep producers and offered assistance through *The Progressive Rancher*.

5. Review of Agriculture Bills Pending in Nevada Legislature

A. *Discussion whether Board will take a formal position on the following proposed legislation – Woody Worthington, Chair (*for possible action*):

1. Assembly Bill 31

Varlin Higbee moved to support Assembly Bill 31. Paul Noe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Assembly Bill 34

Heather Lackey moved to support Assembly Bill 34. Paul Noe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Assembly Bill 74

Varlin Higbee moved to support Assembly Bill 74. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Assembly Bill 75

Varlin Higbee moved to support Assembly Bill 75. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Senate Bill 34

Varlin Higbee moved to support Senate Bill 34. Paul Noe seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-2.

6. Senate Bill 54

Chairman Worthington removed Senate Bill 54 from consideration based on previous vote in support as amended at the January 19, 2021 meeting.

7. Senate Bill 63

Paul Noe moved to support Senate Bill 63. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

8. Senate Bill 65

Paul Noe moved to support Senate Bill 65. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-2.

6. Director's Report

A. Report – Jennifer Ott, Director (*for information*)

Chairman Worthington allowed Varlin Higbee to have discussion with Director Ott on previous

agenda item, Senate Bill 65, and if the bill is terminating the Department's management of the Virginia Range feral/stray horses. Director Ott clarified that the bill is not changing, removing, or adding authority, but consolidating language under Animal Industry and the management of the horses remains with the Department.

7. Consumer Equitability

A. Board update – Cadence Matijevich, Administrator (*for information*)

8. Plant Industry

A. Board update – Ashley Jeppson, Administrator (*for information*)

9. Animal Industry

A. Board update – Doug Farris, Administrator (*for information*)

Chair Worthington allowed public comment from Leana Carey asking where the herds of Virginia Range feral/stray horses are located.

10. Food and Nutrition

A. Board update – Homa Anooshehpour, Administrator (*for information*)

11. Administration

A. Board update – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for information*)

B. *Department Travel Policy revision – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for possible action*)

Pete Paris moved to approve the Department Travel Policy revision. Jim Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. *Department Technology Use Policy revision – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for possible action*)

Charlie Frey moved to approve the Department Technology Use Policy revision. Jim Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. *Department Work Performance Standards Policy revision – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for possible action*)

Varlin Higbee moved to approve the Department Work Performance Standards Policy revision. Paul Noe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. *Workplace Health and Safety Policy revision – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for possible action*)

Paul Noe moved to approve the Workplace Health and Safety Policy revision. Varlin Higbee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

12. Public Comment

Mackenzie Campbell, on behalf of the petroleum industry, provided public comment thanking the board for their support of Assembly Bill 31.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:03p.m.